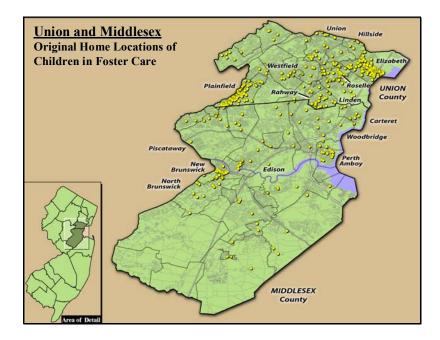


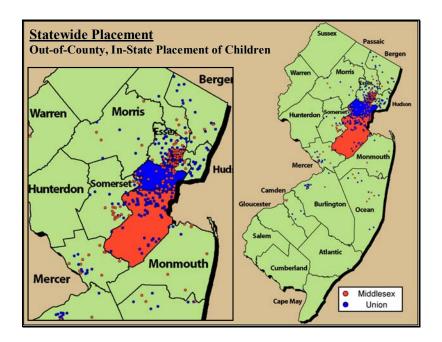
This map shows where child abuse and neglect was alleged to have occurred in the two counties during 2001. The size of the bubble represents the number of reports for a specific location, such as an apartment building or a residential program.

In Union County, which ranked sixteenth in the state for abuse/neglect referrals per 1,000 children (14.1 per 1,000), the greatest number of child abuse and neglect allegations occurred in Elizabeth (631), Plainfield (415) and Rahway (139).

In Middlesex County, which ranked eighteenth in the state for alleged child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children (12.2 per 1,000), Perth Amboy (406), New Brunswick (280) and Woodbridge (234) had the highest numbers of alleged incidents of child abuse and neglect.



As of June 2003, a total of 957 children from Union and Middlesex counties are in foster care. Nearly 72 percent of these children are from Union County (686), with 81 percent of Union County children coming from Elizabeth (355) and Plainfield (200). In Middlesex County, 271 children are in foster care. Nearly 46 percent come from New Brunswick (68) and Perth Amboy (56).



As of June 2003, a little over 58 percent (58.3 %) of the 957 children in foster care from these two counties have been placed in foster homes located outside their own county. The majority of these children were placed in foster homes in North Jersey.

Union County has 57 percent of its children placed in out-of-county foster homes (390 children). Just over 67 percent of those out-of-county placements are in Essex (175) and Middlesex (88) counties.

Middlesex County placed 62 percent (168) of its children in out-of-county foster homes. A little over 61 percent (61.3%) of those children were placed in Essex (60) and Union (43) counties.